3SquaresVT Participation and Benefits

State Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30)	Average Monthly Recipients				Average Monthly Benefits Issued				Total Benefits Issued for the Year (total caseload)
	Overall Caseload		CashOut Only						
	Individuals	Hholds	Individuals	Hholds	Per Individual	Per HH Overall	Per HH Cashout Only	Average Benefits Issued Monthly (total caseload)	
1983	51,996	20,282	4,902	4,377	$42	$105	$60	$2,131,927	$25,583,124
1984	51,167	20,442	4,966	4,455	$45	$99	$45	$2,020,548	$24,246,576
1985	44,896	18,205	4,763	4,319	$43	$94	$41	$1,715,573	$20,586,876
1986	39,676	16,501	4,783	4,341	$43	$95	$41	$1,559,783	$18,717,396
1987	36,561	15,523	4,888	4,446	$42	$93	$42	$1,442,238	$17,306,856
1988	34,444	14,837	5,110	4,662	$41	$94	$39	$1,393,215	$16,718,580
1989	33,605	14,971	5,361	4,910	$39	$95	$38	$1,422,877	$17,074,524
1990	36,919	16,405	5,616	5,149	$38	$105	$40	$1,727,202	$20,726,424
1991	45,024	19,591	5,991	5,512	$44	$119	$42	$2,324,061	$27,888,732
1992	52,420	22,745	6,439	5,959	$52	$129	$44	$2,940,827	$35,289,924
1993	56,893	24,844	7,079	6,515	$53	$126	$44	$3,120,992	$37,451,904
1994	58,444	25,658	7,311	6,727	$58	$131	$50	$3,362,217	$40,346,604
1995	58,191	26,016	7,613	7,011	$61	$137	$51	$3,573,608	$42,883,296
1996	56,335	25,660	7,854	7,234	$64	$140	$52	$3,582,758	$42,993,096
1997	53,322	24,669	7,710	7,110	$65	$140	$51	$3,459,513	$41,514,156
1998	48,913	22,629	7,527	6,964	$63	$136	$50	$3,087,319	$37,047,828
1999	44,927	21,070	7,353	6,820	$65	$139	$52	$2,921,170	$35,054,040
2000	41,657	19,928	7,318	6,789	$65	$135	$54	$2,690,572	$32,286,864
2001	39,066	19,118	7,368	6,848	$67	$136	$60	$2,605,542	$31,266,504
2002	39,575	19,605	7,432	6,899	$71	$144	$61	$2,818,292	$33,819,504
2003	40,917	20,317	7,492	6,937	$75	$150	$65	$3,050,640	$36,607,680
2004	42,233	21,122	7,629	7,069	$78	$156	$71	$3,298,661	$39,583,932
2005	44,783	22,133	7,826	7,243	$82	$165	$80	$3,656,213	$43,874,556
2006	46,628	23,185	8,044	7,457	$87	$174	$94	$4,034,662	$48,415,944
2007	51,766	25,609	8,422	7,825	$88	$178	$106	$4,556,785	$54,681,423
2008	54,657	27,100	8,752	8,153	$91	$184	$110	$4,998,840	$59,986,075
2009	66,506	32,679	9,913	9,134	$108	$220	$145	$7,199,003	$86,388,039
2010	83,846	41,466	11,629	10,583	$121	$244	$162	$10,122,412	$121,468,942
2011	90,526	45,308	12,742	11,555	$122	$244	$164	$11,045,380	$132,544,557
2012	95,292	48,480	13,752	12,489	$122	$240	$164	$11,623,219	$139,478,623
2013	100,156	51,883	14,712	13,362	$124	$239	$166	$12,393,720	$148,724,635
2014	95,994	50,198	15,320	13,991	$119	$227	$161	$11,403,705	$136,844,461
2015	86,384	45,430	15,724	14,381	$120	$229	$161	$10,403,254	$124,839,048
2016	80,852	43,403	15,862	14,568	$122	$227	$159	$9,867,338	$118,408,056
2017	74,793	41,391	15,776	14,598	$127	$229	$162	$9,475,268	$113,514,710
2018	74,038	41,264	16,119	14,939	$122	$220	$161	$9,063,715	$108,764,580
2019	70,335	39,843	16,206	15,060	$121	$213	$168	$8,494,163	$101,929,956
2020	68,485	39,327	16,326	15,180	$131	$228	$198	$8,976,810	$107,721,721
2021	68,624	39,364	16,435	15,267	$191	$333	$232	$13,119,336	$157,432,037
2022	68,274	39,659	16,939	15,735	$249	$428	$311	$16,972,694	$203,672,334
2023	71,114	41,545	17,762	16,544	$258	$441	$340	$18,339,228	$214,709,337
2024	67,438	39,936	17,801	16,639	$192	$323	$233	$12,917,092	$155,011,964
2025	65,109	39,241	17,996	16,894	$194	$321	$233	$12,612,303	$151,347,639
2026	61,217	37,657	18,020	16,881	$197	$320	$239	$12,040,009	$144,480,112
2027*	58,501	36,457	18,054	16,924	$196	$314	$234	$11,453,876	$34,361,627

**2027 based on benefits issued year-to-date (July 2026 - September 2026).*

NOTES:

CashOut refers to households comprised only of SSI recipients or people age 60+ whose benefit amount is direct-deposited to their bank account instead of provided on an EBT debit card.

Economic trends, policy changes and federal legislation affect participation and benefits, e.g., 1981 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, Hunger Prevention Act of 1988 and 1996 Personal Responsibility & Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act.

The 2008 Farm Bill raised the minimum benefit for 1-2 person households and made it easier for those with retirement or education savings to participate.

In 2009, Vermont raised its gross income eligibility limits from 130% of federal poverty lines (FPL) to 185% FPL to let the program reach more financially stressed Vermonters.

In March 2020, COVID 19 pandemic hit. Emergency allotments (max allotment by household size) were issued through the rest of FY20,

In October 2026, the 3SVT allotment tables were updated to reflect the increases to the thrifty food plan.

Prepared by DCF Economic Services Division